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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/523,596	12/02/2005	Randolf Von Oepen	31698-1700	1304
Nicola A Pisano Luce Forward Hamilton & Scripps Suite 200 11988 El Camino Real San Diego, CA 92130				
EXAMINER				
HORNBERGER, JENNIFER LEA				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3734				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
10/14/2008		PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/523,596

**Applicant(s)**

VON OEPEN ET AL.

**Examiner**

JENNIFER L. HORNBERGER

**Art Unit**

3734

**Period for Reply** -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02/04/2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CIS-100)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01/04/2008

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Euteneuer et al. (US 5,445,646).

3. Regarding claim 1, Euteneuer et al. disclose an apparatus for delivery and deployment of a stent within a vessel, the stent being expandable from a delivery diameter to a deployed diameter, the apparatus comprising: a catheter (12) having a proximal end and a distal end; an expandable means (110) mounted at the distal end of the catheter and being expandable by means of a fluid pressure device, the expandable means configured to permit mounting of the stent thereon; a sheath (14) configured to be advanced over the stent and being arranged for proximal retraction to expose the stent by means of a retraction device, wherein the fluid pressure device is further arranged to operate the retraction device so that the expandable means is expanded in response to the retraction of the sheath. There is inherently a fluid pressure device for providing the fluid to expand the expandable means and to operate the retraction device (col. 9, ln. 18-32 and ln. 48-51; Fig. 12)

4. Regarding claim 2, Euteneuer et al. disclose wherein the retraction device comprises a cylinder-piston arrangement operated by the fluid pressure (col. 9, ln.18-32; Fig. 12).

5. Regarding claim 3, Euteneuer et al. disclose a control means for controlling the fluid pressure operating the retraction device and the expandable means, either concurrently or sequentially. There is inherently a control means for controlling the fluid pressure for operating

the retraction device and the expandable means. Expansion of the expandable means occurs sequentially to the retraction of the sheath since the balloon is used to seat the stent into the vessel wall (col. 9, ln. 48-51).

6. Regarding claim 4, Euteneuer et al. disclose a first piston of the cylinder-piston arrangement is connected to the sheath via a wire (98, 100) (col. 9, ln. 18-32; Fig. 12).
7. Regarding claim 11, Euteneuer disclose the fluid is liquid (col. 9, ln.18-32).

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

8. Claims 5-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. None of the prior art disclose a retraction device comprising a cylinder-piston arrangement having an outlet connected to a fluid pressure line for applying fluid pressure to the expandable means.

#### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JENNIFER L. HORNBERGER whose telephone number is (571)270-3642. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8am-5pm, Eastern time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Todd Manahan can be reached on (571)272-4713. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

jlh  
10/07/08

/Todd E Manahan/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3731